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Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee

Report of the First Committee (Part II)

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I. Introduction

1. At its resumed session, the First Committee continued its consideration of the item entitled "Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee".

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.1/52/L.51/Rev.2

2. On 17 June 1998, the Chairman of the First Committee submitted a draft decision entitled "Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee" (A/C.1/52/L.51/Rev.2).

3. At the 25th meeting on 29 June, the First Committee considered and adopted draft decision A/C.1/52/L.51/Rev.2 without a vote.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

4. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and bearing in mind the need to enhance the efficient functioning of the First Committee, decides that:

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(a) As from the fifty-third session, the First Committee:

(i) Will make every effort to conduct and conclude its substantive work with the most efficient use of time in not less than 30 meetings and in a time-frame not exceeding five weeks;

(ii) Will conduct its work by combining the existing phases in the programme of work: "Structured discussion of specific subjects on the adopted thematic approach on disarmament and international security agenda items" and "Consideration of all draft resolutions submitted under all agenda items", provided that sufficient time is allowed for informal consultations and discussions on all draft resolutions;

(b) The Chairman of the First Committee will continue consultations with regard to the revitalization, rationalization and streamlining of the work and reform of the agenda of the Committee in all its aspects and report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.

The General Assembly further decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee".